

## GRAIN MARKETS WEAK AND LOWER.

**WHEAT SHOWED A DISPOSITION TO SELL OFF.**

**Speculation Slow and Dull, but Such Declines as Took Place Were Small.**

Office Republic.  
Wednesday, May 9, 1906.

The grain markets of this country, and particularly those right here in St. Louis, can best be described as being in a state of suspended animation. The speculative apathy which has so long prevailed continues uninterrupted, and appearances would seem to indicate that this state of affairs might continue as long as there is an absence of speculative interest on the part of the outside public and new features of a radical nature. Things were almost dead on the floor of the local exchange to-day, traders apparently thinking more of the direct railway traffic than the different grain markets. The price movement all through the day was sluggish, the range hardly ever being over 5¢, and most of the time was less than that. The early operations in wheat in the pit on "change" throughout the day were limited to small and in many ways uninteresting transactions. Room traders were apparently nervous, owing to the absence of stimulating factors, and as far as possible kept the station during certain parts of the time was far from a week one, being really steady at a slight decline. Throughout the day considerable independence was shown by the grain, being buoyed up by some strengthening influences. There was nothing of much early value, however, and there was but little of anything of real bulk in the market. The first cables were more disappointing than otherwise, the response by Liverpool and London to our closing of yesterday being only 1¢, while each was dull and the other the next morning. Still there was some information on hand that could be construed as bullish. For instance, the regular weekly Government reports contained advices of very serious damage in Central and Eastern Tennessee by fire, some deterioration in certain parts of Illinois, and wheat was there said to be in short supply. The market was also said that the weather was dry and cool for wheat in North Dakota. According to the weather map on "change" the conditions were generally favorable for winter wheat. The receipts at this point were posted at 3,900 bushels against 3,900 carats in the Northwest, against 36 carats.

As previously stated there was nothing but about the way the market started off this morning, and it continued to do so until the situation was not encouraging from a bull standpoint. Trading was slow and dull and strictly prosaic, the open outcry being limited to the demand as to decline or not. The weeks in corn had a bad influence, but July still showed a slight gain, and the strong feeling was developed that a strong market was in the making. Continental sales were now beginning. Paris being up 1¢, and Antwerp, 1¢, and Berlin, 1¢, showed improvement, but our Baltic ports were still lower, while Liverpool did not show any signs of recovery. A break of 1¢ in May at New York, after large deliveries and the fact that the cash situation was still bad, caused this market to weaken, and the day ended off 1¢ lower for the day, or 1¢ 10¢ lower for the month, and September 1¢ lower at 3¢.

The condition of the growing crop just at this time entered largely into the estimate and the market's market and this morning was one of the chief culprits in its actions. According to the Government statement for last week, when made public, with the single exception of that of Texas, the crop was making excellent progress. Heavy rain in the West and in the States have done damage, but at the same time the situation is going on as far North as Oklahoma with planting progressing steadily and plowing operations well advanced. The crops are well sustained.

Fires, both in the field and in the cities, were a factor in the market, and the grain was in fact in demand, but some heavy rain and the weather were more favorable, and the demand was still lower. The market was again dull and weak, as excepts were heavier and the demand slowed after fire.

Tomatoes again were scarce, and there was a fair demand for them.

Cream prices were in demand and the market was in fact in demand, but some heavy rain and the weather were more favorable, and the demand was still lower. The market was again dull and weak, as excepts were heavier and the demand slowed after fire.

Apples continue quiet and steady, shipping was light and good, and supplies are now being taken care of, and the market is in very little demand and offerings are now steady.

New onions were dull and weak, as excepts were heavier and the demand slowed after fire.

Onions were quiet and steady, as excepts were lighter and the market was in very little demand and offerings are now steady.

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